

Response to Restriction Requirement

Applicant acknowledges the withdrawal of claims 57 and 58 as being directed to a non-elected invention.

Response to Identification of Species Requirement

The Examiner states that Applicants are required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species, from each Species Group, for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable.

Applicants hereby elect Species 1 from Species Group I (claim 1) with traverse. Claims readable thereon are 1, 3 – 5, 8 – 13 and 15. Applicants hereby elect Species 1 from Species Group II with traverse. Claims readable thereon are claims 1, 3, 38, 39, 53 and 55.

While Applicants agree with the Examiner that the subject matter of Groups I-II are independent and patentably distinct, it is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims 1-62 is sufficiently related and that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden.

Attorney Docket No. 25353A

If any questions should arise with respect to the above remarks, or if it would in any way expedite the prosecution of the case, it is requested that the Examiner contact Applicants' agent at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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